

MINUTES FOR THE SPECIAL CALLED WORK SESSION MEETING OF THE WHITFIELD COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS HELD MONDAY FEBRUARY 27, 2017, AT 6:00 P.M. IN THE ADMINISTRATIVE BUILDING #1, 301 W. CRAWFORD STREET

SPECIAL CALLED WORK SESSION

The Chairman called the work session to order.

The following members were present:

R. Lynette Laughter, Chairman
Harold Brooker, Vice Chairman
Barry W. Robbins, Member
Roger Crossen, Member
Greg Jones, Member

Others Present:

Mark Gibson, County Administrator
Robert Smalley, County Attorney
Department Heads
Press

Work Session:

Chairman Laughter called the work session to order.

Natalie Glaser from the Public Defender's Office addressed the Board and informed them of the conditions at Administration Building #2, where the Public Defenders Offices are located. Glaser noted that their offices are on the second floor of the building and are not ADA compliant, persons with disabilities are not able to go upstairs, they have to call their offices and someone will come down to speak with them. Glaser noted that security is also an issue, currently anyone from the public can walk into their offices and they are not screened beforehand. Glaser further noted that they do not have a conference area to meet with clients in a private area or a meeting space for employees. Glaser noted that there's a total of ten employees that are in the offices. The Board noted that they will look into the situation, whether to rent another building that would better accommodate them or to rebuild the building completely. Buildings and Grounds Director Gary Brown noted that the cost to rebuild would be around \$2 million.

Information Technology Director Rick Lovelady informed the Board that he will present for approval at the April Board meeting a purchase of antivirus software. Lovelady noted that traditional antivirus can no longer protect systems from zero day threats. Lovelady further noted that security companies are recommending additional products such as Anti-Malware and tools to restore systems to a previous state. Lovelady recommended Sentinel One because they use a six-layer approach to combat viruses and malware.

Finance Director Alicia Vaughn presented the Board with a 2017 Budget Amendment #1. Vaughn noted that this budget amendment takes funds from contingency and transfers it to capital projects.

Finance Director Alicia Vaughn informed the Board about the possibility of renegotiating the current School Resource Officer's reimbursement from the County Schools. Vaughn noted that the Sheriff's Office has five School Resource Officers and recommends an increase to the benefit percentage to 40% plus an 10% additional allocation for training, uniforms, equipment and gas for vehicles.

County Administrator Mark Gibson noted that Ashley O'Donald Chief Appraiser of the Tax Assessors Office that the Board of Assessors has nominated Regina Johnson to fill a vacancy

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on the Board. Gibson noted that the Board can officially appoint Ms. Johnson at the upcoming regular meeting in April.

County Administrator Mark Gibson informed the Board a drainage problem at the Whitfield County Jail. Commissioner Brooker noted that when the drains were installed they had been placed higher than the floors. Commissioner Brooker informed the Board that the Public Works Department will fix the drains and remove the gravel and rock and set the drains to a lower position.

The work session was adjourned.

R. LYNETTE LAUGHTER, CHAIRMAN
WHITFIELD COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

BLANCA CARDONA, COUNTY CLERK

DATE: / /